

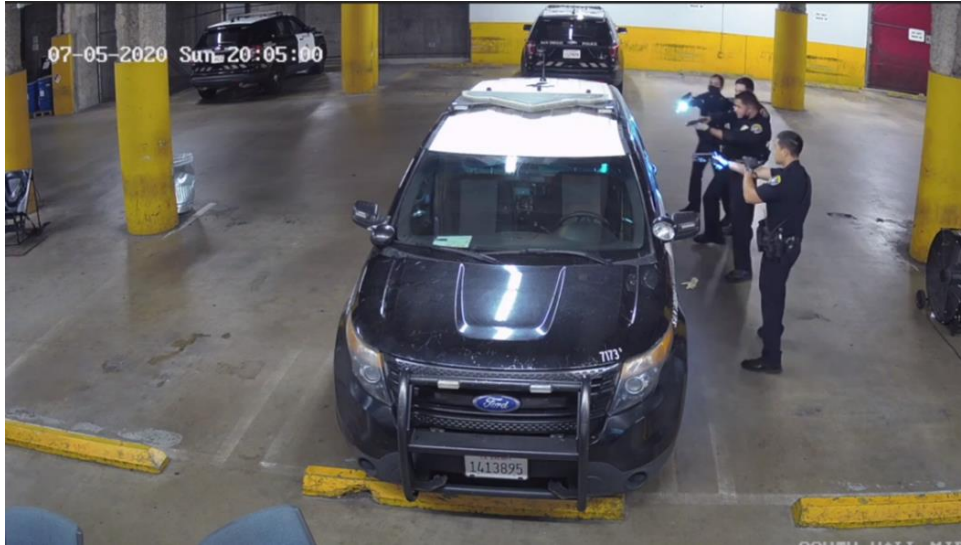


Santa Clara Police

Training Flash



TRANSPORTING ARRESTEES



Our officers have done a great job in maintaining our professionalism when apprehending suspects and verifying the welfare of our arrestees. This has been proven on multiple occasions when suspects have attempted to injure or kill themselves while handcuffed in the back of marked patrol vehicles. Our officers were able to safely secure the arrestees or perform life-saving measures to prevent a tragic incident. Sadly, there have been local agencies which had to deal with arrestees who have died when they strangled themselves with their own seatbelts while handcuffed in the back of marked patrol vehicles. There have also been recent incidents where arrestees were able to access officers' firearms while handcuffed in the back of marked patrol vehicles.

Prior to transport, during the transport or at a holding facility make sure to:

- **Perform a thorough inventory search for weapons, contraband, personal effects, and/or restricted items**
- **Verify handcuffs are double locked and positioned correctly**
- **Prisoner is seated behind the front-passenger seat (solo-officer transport).**
- **Seatbelts are properly positioned and secured**
- **Constantly monitor the welfare of arrestees while in the back of marked patrol vehicles**
- **Never leave an arrestee unattended during the transportation process**
- **Secure firearms, less lethal tools, or any weapons in a locked container**

Remember, a "Special Relationship" exists when an officer takes custody of a suspect. Officers must assume responsibility and take reasonable steps to provide for his/her care and safety for any foreseeable risks (Uhlrig vs Harder).

For more information concerning the in-custody seat belt death, handcuffed arrestee accessing an officer's firearm, or liability for failure to protect:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4E85SciVRQ>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Vwss0LB6g&feature=emb_logo

<https://www.policemag.com/340328/liability-for-failure-to-protect>

Training Flash: 2020-10

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Reviewed By: CP A10

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